



European Patent  
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# SUPPLEMENTARY

## PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

under Rule 46, paragraph 1 of the European Patent Convention EP 01 93 9821

### DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	US 5 780 101 A (LYNCH DAVID G ET AL) 14 July 1998 (1998-07-14)  * claims *	1-6,27, 28,34, 35,37	C01B31/02 B01J8/02
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X	EP 0 945 402 A (SHIMADZU CORP ;RES INST INNOVATIVE TECH EARTH (JP)) 29 September 1999 (1999-09-29) * examples *	1,9,27, 28,34,35	
Y	--- PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1996, no. 12, 26 December 1996 (1996-12-26) & JP 08 198611 A (NEC CORP), 6 August 1996 (1996-08-06) * abstract *	8	
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			C01B B01J

### LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

The present partial European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims.

Place of search

MUNICH

Date of completion of the search

9 June 2004

Examiner

Schwaller, J-M

#### CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

X : particularly relevant if taken alone  
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category  
A : technological background  
O : non-written disclosure  
P : intermediate document

T : theory or principle underlying the invention  
E : earlier patent document; but published on, or after the filing date  
D : document cited in the application  
L : document cited for other reasons  
-----  
& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 01 93 9821

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.  
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

09-06-2004

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